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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: ) Art Unit: 1635  
RICCARDI, Carlo ) Examiner: J. Epps  
Appln. No.: 09/403,861 ) Washington, D.C.  
Filed: February 11, 2000 ) July 18, 2001  
For: INTRACELLULAR MODULATORS ) Atty. Docket: RICCARDI=1  
OF APOPTOTIC CELL DEATH )  
PATHWAYS )

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Honorable Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The Office Action of June 21, 2001, primarily in the nature of a requirement for restriction, has been carefully reviewed.

Restriction has been required between what the examiner deems to be 13 patentably distinct inventions, namely:

Group I, claims 1-10, drawn to DNA which encodes a GILR protein, DNA vector, and host cells;

Group II, claims 11-12 and 26, drawn to protein and pharmaceutical composition comprising said protein;

Group III, claim 13, drawn to a recombinant method of making a protein;

Group IV, claims 14 and 35, drawn to an antibody and method of using said antibody;

Group V, claim 24, screening process for isolating and identifying proteins according to claim 11 which are GILR-like proteins belonging to the leucine zipper family or proteins capable of binding directly to GILR;

Group VI, claim 27, drawn to pharmaceutical composition comprising a recombinant animal virus encoding a protein capable of binding a cell surface receptor and encoding at least one GILR protein or derivative;

Group VII, claim 28, drawn to antisense pharmaceutical composition;

Group VIII, claim 29, drawn to a pharmaceutical composition comprising an inactive mutant GILR protein of DNA sequence encoding said inactive mutant GILR protein, which GILR mutant;

Group IX, claims 30 and 40, drawn to a pharmaceutical composition comprising a peptide inhibitor capable of binding to the active site or the leucine zipper domain of GILR and a method of using said peptide inhibitor;

Group X, claims 32-34, drawn to methods of inhibiting, in cells, apoptosis mediated by the Fas/FasL system, CD3/TCR system;

Group XI, claims 36-37, drawn to a method of enhancing apoptosis in cells by inhibiting the activity of GILR proteins in said cells comprising treating said cells with an

oligonucleotide sequence encoding an antisense sequence for at least part of the DNA sequence encoding a GILR protein;

Group XII, claim 38, drawn to a method of enhancing apoptosis for treating tumor cells, HIV-infected cells, or other diseased cells comprising infecting said tumor with a recombinant animal virus vector carrying a sequence encoding a viral surface protein capable of binding to a specific tumor cell surface receptor of HIV-infected cell surface receptor and a sequence encoding an inactive GILR mutant protein; and

Group XIII, claim 39, drawn to a method of enhancing apoptosis in cells comprising a ribozymes procedure.

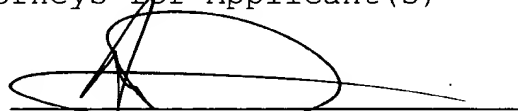
Applicants hereby elect without traverse Group II, presently comprising claims 11-12 and 26.

Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BROWDY AND NEIMARK, P.L.L.C.  
Attorneys for Applicant(s)

By



ALLEN C. YUN

Registration No. 37,971

ACY:pr

Telephone No.: (202) 628-5197

Facsimile No.: (202) 737-3528

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